

COMMUNIST FORUM

"mass organization". The workers have received this fact with a good response although there remains some anti-communism

OUR ERRORS AND THEIR ROOTS

COREs (MLM) was late 2 months in getting involved in the Coors strike. Although our experience in strikes is limited, we saw that the importance of the strike demanded our participation. However, in joining the Support Coalition we were never able to allocate the proper cadre and the number of cadre to carry out the work.

Due to inexperience and petty-bourgeois tendencies, our written propaganda was not fully aimed at the workers and at times even appeared condescending. We do think that the line in the propaganda was correct and that the propaganda has improved through practice, study and sumup. We also failed to consult the workers on this propaganda prior to printing it. This would have been possible.

In moving to rectify our errors, we have attempted to systematize better our contacts with the workers. We are moving to reallocate cadre to concentrate better and we are working on independent actions with the workers in support of the strike. Given the correct conditions, we should be able to fulfill our tasks as communists.

There were good discussions and struggle with the more advanced strikers, such as on the bankruptcy of the bureaucrats, the economism of the Coalition, the need for a "non-peaceful" strike, etc. The line put forward to the strikers was consistently communist, but without the consistent organizational work, it was lacking. The main opportunists who were spending the time and effort to win over the workers, were able to sway them and temporarily discredit us.

COREs (MLM) sees our continuing tasks as winning over the advanced among the workers; propaganda to expose the incorrect leadership; doing exposures of the State; building independent, politically sound support actions, linking the struggle to other struggles, rallying physical support for the strikers' actions, as well as deepening our grasp of communist work in guiding the workers against the bureaucrats.

The Coors Strikers have shown their ability to prevent opportunism from disintegrating their ranks. Their struggle at this time is a positive example for all working and oppressed people in the U.S. The definitely political character to this struggle and its potential for victory would be a blow to the more reactionary elements of the bourgeoisie and a blow for the proletarian struggle that is beginning to assume wider and wider proportions in this country.

**SUPPORT THE DEMANDS OF THE COORS STRIKERS AND STRENGTHEN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST CAPITALISM!
DOWN WITH COORS AND ALL OTHER REACTIONARIES' FULL DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS FOR ALL WORKERS & OPPRESSED NATIONALITIES AND WOMEN!
ISOLATE ALL WHO DEVIATE THE STRIKERS FROM VICTORY AND LONG LIVE THE COORS STRIKERS'**

In Vol 8, #7 of RESISTANCE, we printed an article about the Coors strike. In this issue, we are taking sections from a pamphlet published by the Colorado Organization for Revolutionary Struggle (M-L-M) which sums up the work they carried out in that struggle. In the excerpts we do not try to present the total view of COREs in any of the fundamental questions that are dealt with in the sum-up. We decided to present instead a brief selection from the different sections of the pamphlet in order that our readers get an over-all view of the scope and

direction of our comrades' sum-up and its importance as a concrete example of a genuine attempt to integrate the universal truths of Marxism-Leninism Mao Tse-tung Thought to the concrete conditions facing the US workers' and communist movements

LPR-ML has unity with the fundamental thrust of the sum-up and considers its publication by the comrades of COREs a valuable contribution that should be studied and criticized. In order that we can all learn from both the correct work and the mistakes made by COREs in the course of their work in the strike

On the Coors Strike

This strike is significant in this area of the country for several reasons. Coors is the largest private employer in Colorado and in the forefront of the most reactionary elements of the bourgeoisie. Also, the workers have fought for over 40 years to gain just their minimal rights. And the political character of the strike (the defense of democratic rights) above all makes this a crucial battleground in the struggle for socialism.

The Colorado Organization for Revolutionary Struggle (COREs) M-L-M has supported the Coors strikers in this defense of their democratic rights. We especially support their demands for a union shop, no polygraph tests of employees, protection of seniority rights (in layoffs, shift assignments, recall from layoff, for plant-wide seniority, etc.) and the right of workers to exercise their right to freedom of assembly and speech off the job (such as participating in demonstrations, not crossing picket lines, etc.) It is the company's reactionary position on these demands which sparked the struggle and forced the workers into the strike.

Coors beer has historically been identified by Chicanos, Blacks, some unions and progressive people as a product to be boycotted since it is owned by one of the most politically reactionary elements in this area.

UNION LOCAL BUREAUCRATS' REFORMIST LINE

The bureaucrats' line is typical of the labor aristocracy in the U.S. It is reflected in their strategy and tactics for this strike.

- 1) Economism - They have spread anti-communism and tried to keep political ideas and discussion from the workers. They have not "allowed" leafleting of the workers.
- 2) Anti-democracy - They have maintained control from the top, trying to prevent the formation of a politically conscious, organized rank & file organization.
- 3) Reformism - They have consistently confined and channeled the struggle into the courts, the NLRB and the boycott.
- 4) Pacifism - They prepared the workers for a boycott but not for a strike and have tried to keep the workers' militancy in check by proclaiming this a "peaceful" strike. No picket sticks are allowed at the demonstrations and pickets.

ANALYSIS OF THE FORCES

CP (ML) - Vanguard of Anti-Communism

The right opportunist line of the CP (OL) is at the heart of their defeat. They did not expect to be exposed. They had built up so-called tactical unity with certain bureaucrats but ignored the task of identifying and winning over the more advanced strikers. If it was time already to call for the ouster of the bureaucrats, then it was long past time to break the "tactical" unity with the bureaucrats. In fact, this tactical unity was class collaboration.

CPUSA - Tailing the Bureaucrats

It is the CPUSA who provided the machinery and leadership to turn a correct secondary task incorrectly into a primary tactic.

The CPUSA has been a lifesaver for the bureaucrats. Without their work, without the "left" cover that they use to hide their reformism, without them the more advanced workers could long ago have overturned the bureaucrats' line and strategy.

They tried to lead the drive to put an end to political struggle and exposures.

RCP - In the Shadow of the CPUSA

The Revolutionary Communist Party, like the CP (OL), has done its own share of bourgeois maneuvering with the workers. They have disrupted the workers' discussions to try to mobilize them to RCP events.

WVO - The Overall Most Correct Absence

Although WVO sympathizers and spokespeople have been hanging around the union hall for many months now, nearly no one knows this.

NWLF - Trotskyite Provocateurs

Complementing the right opportunism, building support for Coors and helping the State to smash the strike is the so-called New World Liberation Front. Their attempted bombings of Coors distributors are typical of the individualistic terrorism of the petty-bourgeois. Their actions, alongside the negative actions of the bureaucrats, have turned the militancy of the strikers into individual actions against the company as opposed to organized, mass actions or militant actions by the strikers.

The Eclectics have likewise encouraged the workers to take individual terrorist actions while ignoring the possibility of mass revolutionary action by the rank & file.

WOMEN STRIKERS - Struggling Against Male Chauvinism

Coors' chauvinism is not limited to national chauvinism. Up until 1974 there were no women workers in the plant. As the strike has intensified, the more advanced women workers came to the forefront and attempted to share in the responsibility of leading the struggle. Male chauvinism did not stop them.

Within the Coalition, the opportunists showed their true intentions regarding the woman question. Child care was either ignored or fought against by nearly all the opportunists. Bourgeois feminism emerged for a time by the attempted splitting of the women supporters from the male supporters. A special contribution (from a feminist group) to the Coalition had a stipulation that the women in the Coalition had to decide how the money was to be spent. This encouraged not female leadership, but splitting the women from the men. The attempt was thwarted by the more conscious women.

COREs LINE - Win Over the Advanced to Seize the Union and Lead the Strike to Victory

We have not hidden the fact that we are communists as the CP (OL), RCP, WVO and CPUSA have done, using the guise of some

Sum-up of the Coors Strike



ORDER FROM

BOSHOLDER
P O BOX 11084
DENVER, COLORADO 80211

by

COREs (MLM)